



Former Northwestern Barrel Superfund Site Summary of Upcoming Field Work

South Milwaukee, Wisconsin

June, 1998

This fact sheet provides a brief update on the upcoming surface and subsurface soil sampling to be conducted the week of June 29, 1998 at two properties surrounding the Former Northwestern Barrel Site (site) located in South Milwaukee.

This fact sheet also provides a summary of the proposed soil excavation and removal activities to be performed in the ravine, Lake Michigan bluff, and upland areas at the site. These activities are scheduled to begin as soon as July 13, 1998.

Note: No soils will be treated on-site.

Additional Soil Sampling in Residential Areas

During the week of June 29, 1998, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA), a contractor for the cooperating potentially responsible parties, will collect surface and subsurface soil samples from two properties surrounding the site. The purpose of this sampling is to address concerns voiced by area residents, to investigate the concentrations found at borehole BH-5 (located in the vicinity of Marina Cliffs Condominium buildings 1 and 2), and to give the U.S. EPA the necessary information to determine if former site activities and operations have impacted soils in these areas.

Marina Cliffs Condominium Property: A minimum of four additional boreholes will be drilled and subsurface soil samples will be collected in the vicinity of recently-completed borehole BH-5. These activities are being conducted in response to the laboratory data collected at this borehole in March 1998. Two subsurface soil samples collected at BH-5, at

depths greater than six feet below ground surface, exhibited higher concentrations than generally found. These subsurface soil samples will give U.S. EPA additional information about the horizontal and vertical extent of the concentrations in this area.

In addition, one borehole will also be drilled and subsurface soil samples will be collected in the vicinity of Marina Cliffs Condominium buildings 3 and 4. These activities are taking place in response to the concerns voiced by area residents of a possible third pit in this area.

City of South Milwaukee Property: One borehole will be drilled and subsurface soil samples will be collected from property owned by the City of South Milwaukee just south of the site fence near the Lake Ridge Apartments. One surface soil sample will also be collected at this location. These additional surface and subsurface soil samples will give the U.S. EPA the necessary information to determine if former Site activities and operations have impacted soils in this area.

The U.S. EPA and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) on-site personnel will oversee all sampling activities. Laboratory results will be available approximately four to six weeks after completion of the sampling. The U.S. EPA will notify the public of the final results when they become available and will place the results in the site information repository at the South Milwaukee library.

Activities in Ravine, Lake Bluff, and Upland Areas

Beginning as early as July 13, 1998, a construction contractor for the cooperating

potentially responsible parties will begin mobilization to the site in preparation for the proposed activities to be performed in the ravine, lake bluff, and upland areas of the site. Activities will include the following:

- clearing of vegetation as required (large trees will be saved to the extent possible);
- construction of a temporary access road to the lake bluff;
- completion of a magnetic survey to identify buried containers and drums;
- excavation and staging of construction debris, drums, containers and soils from the ravine, bluff, and upland areas;
- sampling of the excavated materials to determine appropriate disposal alternatives;
- transportation and off-site disposal of the excavated materials;
- verification sampling at the base of the excavations; and
- regrading and revegetation of the site at the completion of the excavation activities.

U.S. EPA and WDNR on-site personnel will oversee all field activities.

Construction Work Schedule

Field activities will begin no sooner than July 13, 1998 and will take place during the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Precautions to Ensure Safety and Air Quality

All construction activities will be completed according to a site-specific health and safety plan that has been designed to ensure that public safety and the environment are not adversely impacted by the construction activities. Access to the site will be restricted to qualified and properly trained personnel only.

Air Monitoring and Controls: Real-time air monitoring for potential organic chemicals (chemicals that can cause an odor) and particulates (i.e., dust) will be conducted during all activities. In addition, chemical-specific air

monitoring will also be conducted as necessary. Engineering controls (e.g., covering stockpiles of excavated waste materials, limiting the size of the active excavation area, water misting, foaming agents, or the use of a dust suppressant such as calcium chloride) will be implemented during all excavation and staging activities. In addition, specific material handling control procedures (e.g., covering the waste materials in the transportation units, water misting and use of a street sweeper along Marina Road) will be implemented during all transportation activities. A U.S. EPA on-scene coordinator will be on site during field work to continually assess the field work and discuss any concerns of residents.

In the event that material handling controls do not control strong odors, the work causing the odors will stop until additional controls are applied or weather conditions become more favorable.

During Clean-up, Who Should Residents Call with Questions and Concerns?

The U.S. EPA will have a trailer at the site during construction activities. The site trailer will be located at the entrance to the site and will be equipped with a telephone and answering machine. A telephone number will be provided to residents once the site trailer has been mobilized and telephone service has been established. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact any of the individuals below or on-site U.S. EPA personnel at the site trailer during work hours, Monday through Friday. A phone number for after-hours emergencies will be provided to residents at a later date.

Worker Protection: Residents will observe that site workers will be wearing varying degrees of protective clothing and respiratory equipment. This equipment is necessary to comply with federal requirements which ensure the safety of workers that work extremely close to potentially contaminated material, often on a long-term basis.

Safety Considerations for Residents

Residents should be aware of the increased traffic along Marina Road due to the number of trucks, heavy construction equipment and construction vehicles accessing the site during construction activities.

Access inside the perimeter fence at the site will be restricted to qualified and properly trained personnel only. Residents are also advised to remain clear of ravine area as well as the beach area located immediately east of the Site due to potential hazards associated with the field activities at the site (i.e., heavy construction equipment, truck traffic, construction activities in the Lake Michigan bluff and ravine areas of

the site and potentially unstable slopes). Residents who witness others ignoring posted warning signs or entering inside the site perimeter fencing are asked to call the South Milwaukee Police Department or the U.S. EPA on-scene coordinator.

We are interested in your comments and concerns about the upcoming clean-up work.

A draft copy of the multi-volume Time-Critical Removal Action Work Plan, which describes the proposed construction activities at the site, has been placed in the site information repository at the South Milwaukee Public Library. The U.S. EPA is also trying to make arrangements to meet with residents outside the perimeter of the site to walk around the outside of the site, to review the clean-up plans in detail, and to discuss residents' concerns. If we are unable to make such arrangements, U.S. EPA will hold a public information session at the City Hall. Residents will be contacted with a date and time at a later date.

For Additional Information

If you would like additional information about the former Northwestern Barrel site, upcoming soil sampling activities or field activities, please contact one of the individuals below.

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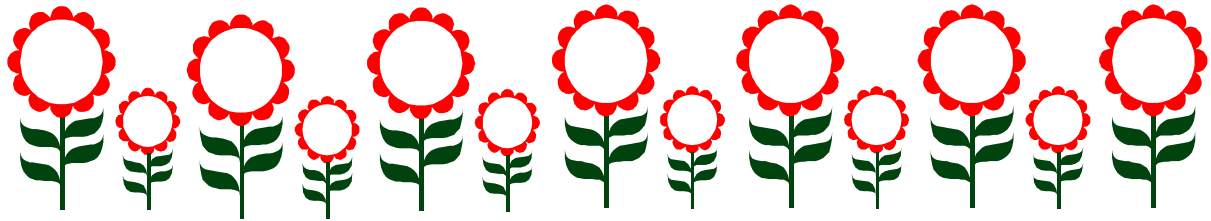
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